

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 2 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

In the Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No.H5-91455, a digital camera is equipped with two memory cards. A memory card for recording is switched to another according to the available memory of these memory cards. This automatic switching partly reduces the complexity of the user operations. However, it is generally after there is not enough available memory that a user considers the available memory when manually selecting a card slot. In the ordinary state when the available memory is enough, users usually consider whether the recorded data is easy to manage rather than to consider whether there is enough available memory. If a the card slot is switched to another according to the available memory for its problems above, data may be recorded in ~~an~~ the unintended memory card, thereby the later data management may become inconvenient. This inconvenience may impair the use of the digital camera after all. The above problem is not limited only to memory cards and card slots. Similar problems may arise regarding ~~to~~ a given memory medium and its medium wearable unit.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 21 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

Therefore, it is an object of the present invention to provide ~~an art~~ for digital cameras that ~~is~~ are capable of automatically selecting an appropriate medium wearable unit for a medium from a plurality of medium wearable units, which is capable of overcoming the above drawbacks accompanying the conventional art. The above and other objects may be achieved by combinations described in the independent claims. The dependent claims define further advantageous and exemplary combinations of the present invention.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 9 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

FIG. 1 is a block diagram showing the entire structure of a digital camera according to an embodiment of the present invention ~~embodiment~~.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 23 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

The invention will now be described based on the preferred embodiments, which ~~do not intend~~ are not intended to limit the scope of the present invention, but exemplify the invention. All of the features and the combinations thereof described in the embodiment are not necessarily essential to the invention.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 28 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

FIG. 1 is a block diagram depicting a structure of a digital camera 10 according to ~~the preferred~~ an embodiment of the present invention. The structures characterized by the present embodiment will be described in FIG. 2. The digital camera according to the present embodiment includes a card slot for a memory card as an example of a medium wearable unit.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 7 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

The image capturing system CPU 50 also controls the light intensity ~~emitting~~ emitted from the electronic flash 36 based on

the measured brightness data, and simultaneously adjusts the amount of aperture of the diaphragm 24. When a the user instructs a the camera to pick up an image, the CCD 30 starts to store up the electric charge. Then, the stored electric charge is output to the capture-signal processor 32 after the expiration of the shutter time calculated on the basis of the measured brightness data.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 16 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

The processing unit 60 is comprised of a main CPU 62, which controls the whole digital camera 10, ~~especially controlling~~ including the processing unit 60 itself, a memory controller 64, 64 which is also controlled by the main CPU 62, a YC processor 70, an optional device controller 74, a compression/extension processor 78, and a communication interface (I/F) section 80. The main CPU 62 communicates necessary information with the image capturing system CPU 50 by serial communication, for example. A clock generator 88 provides ~~gives~~ an operating clock for ~~of~~ the main CPU 62. The clock generator 88 also provides

clocks of different frequencies respectively to the image capturing system CPU 50 and the display unit 100.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 28 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

The main CPU 62 is also comprised of a character generator 84 and a timer 86. The timer 86 is backed up by batteries and counts the time and date continuously. This count value gives the main CPU 62 information about the time and date of photograph and other time related information. The character generator 84 generates character information such as the time and date of photograph or a title. This character information will then appropriately be superimposed with a photographic image.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 4 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

The memory controller 64 controls a non-volatile memory 66 and a main memory 68. The non-volatile memory 66 is comprised of components such as an EEPROM or electrically-erasable programmable ROM, and a flash memory. The non-volatile memory

66 stores data such as setting information set by the a user or an adjustment value before shipment, which should be kept even when the power of the digital camera 10 is turned off. The non-volatile memory 66 may store a boot program or a system program of the main CPU 62 if necessary. On the other hand, the main memory 68 may generally be a relatively inexpensive memory having a large capacity such as a DRAM. The main memory 68 ~~has~~ may include: a frame memory function, which stores data output from the image capturing unit 20; a system memory function, which is loaded with various programs; and a work area function. The non-volatile memory 66 and the main memory 68 ~~undertake a control to~~ may transmit data back and forth among the components at the inside and outside of the processing unit 60 via a main bus 82.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 22 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

The YC processor 70 ~~undertakes~~ performs a Y-to-C conversion on digital image data and generates a luminance signal Y and a chrominance signal B-Y and R-Y. The memory controller 64 temporarily stores the luminance signal and the chrominance

signal in the main memory 68. The compression/extension processor 78 sequentially reads ~~out~~ the luminance signal and the chrominance signal from the main memory 68. The compression/extension processor 78 then compresses the luminance signal and the chrominance signal. A memory card, which is one kind of the optional device ~~76~~, writes through the optional device controller 74 the compressed data described above (referred to as "compressed data"). Whether to write in the card slot A or the card slot B is ~~switched~~ selected by a card selector 75. The main CPU 62 controls the card selector 75.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 2 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

The processing unit 60 further includes an encoder 72. The encoder 72 inputs a luminance signal and a chrominance signal. Then, the encoder 72 converts the luminance signal and the chrominance signal into video signals such as National Television System Committee (NTSC) and Phase Alternation by Line (PAL) signals. The encoder 72 outputs the converted video signals through a video output terminal 90. In order to generate a the video signal from the ~~data~~ recorded in the memory

card, ~~firstly~~ first the data is transmitted to the compression/extension processor 78 through the card controller 74. Then, the data, which has been subjected to a necessary process by the compression/extension processor 78, is converted into a video signal by the encoder 72.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 15 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

The card controller 74 generates necessary signals, a logic conversion, and a voltage conversion, between the main bus 82 and a memory card (slot) according to the signal specifications and the bus specifications of the main bus 82 recognized by the memory card. The digital camera 10 may support, for example, an I/O card, which is a standard PCMCIA-compliant card, other than the above-described memory card, as an optional device 76. In this case, the optional device controller 74 may include a bus control LSI for PCMCIA.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 25 with the following rewritten paragraph.*



The communication I/F section 80 controls such as a protocol conversion based on a communication specification for which the digital camera 10 supports, that is, a specification such as USB, RS-232C, or Ethernet, for example. The communication I/F section 80 may be provided with a driver IC if necessary, and may communicate ~~communicates through~~ with external devices including networks and through a connector 92. Other than those standard specifications, the communication I/F section 80 can have a structure that exchanges data, through a particular interface, with an external device such as a printer, a karaoke device, or a game device.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 17 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

The operating unit 110 is comprised of apparatuses and electric members, which are necessary for a the user to set or instruct the operation or the mode of the operation of the digital camera 10. The power switch 112 determines whether the power of the digital camera 10 is turned on or off. The release switch 114 has a dual structure having the half push switch and the full push switch. For example, the half push switch locks

AF and AE, and the full push switch captures a photographic image. After necessary processes such as the signal processing and the compression of data are completed, the captured image will be stored in the main memory 68 or the optional device 76. The operating unit 110 may have a setting such as a rotary dial for mode or cross key other than the power switch 112 and the release switch 114. The dial for mode and the cross key are collectively referred to as a function ~~setting-section~~ setter 116 as in FIG. 1. ~~There are~~ Function settings include "file format", "special effects", "photographic printing", "confirm/save", and "display switching", for example, as an operation or a function, which can be designated by using the operating unit 110. The zoom switch 118 is operated to set the magnification of zooming.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 3 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

The main operations according to the structures described above are as follows. First, a the power switch 112 ~~of~~ may be operated to turn the digital camera 10 ~~is turned on~~. Electric power is supplied to each part of the camera 10. The main CPU

62 judges the mode of the digital camera 10, by reading the state of the function ~~setting section~~ setter 116. The mode is selected from ~~among~~ between a photograph mode and a play mode.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 10 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

If the digital camera 10 is in the still picture photograph mode, the main CPU 62 monitors for the half-position state of the release switch 114. When the main CPU 62 detects the half-position state, the main CPU 62 obtains photometry data and distance data from the photometry sensor 54 and the distance sensor 52, respectively. The control unit 40 operates based on the obtained data, and adjustments, such as focus and an aperture of the photographic lens 22, are made. When the adjustments are completed, the main CPU 62 displays letters such as "standby" on the LCD monitor 102 to notify the state to the a user.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 20 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

Then, the main CPU 62 monitors for the full-position state of the release switch 114. When the release switch 114 is pressed to the full-position, the shutter 26 is closed after a predetermined shutter time, and the stored electrical charge of the CCD 30 is drained to the image capturing signal processor 32. The digital image data generated by the result of the process undertaken by the image capturing signal processor 32 is output to the main bus 82. The generated digital image data is temporarily stored in the main memory 68. Then, the stored digital image data is processed ~~at~~ by the YC processor 70 and the compression/extension processor 78. The processed digital image data is recorded in the optional device 76 via the optional device controller 74. The recorded digital image data is displayed on the LCD monitor 102 ~~in the frozen state~~ for a period of time. Therefore, a the user can check the photographed image. This process completes a the series of photographing operations.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 4 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

If the digital camera 10 is in the play mode, the main CPU 62 reads image data of the last picture taken ~~last time~~ from the main memory 68 through the memory controller 64. The main CPU 62 then displays the image on the LCD monitor 102 of the display unit 100.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 8 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

If a the user instructs "next" or "back" at the function setting section 116, a photographed image taken before and after the presently ~~displaying~~ displayed image is displayed on the LCD monitor 102.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 21 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

A detachable memory card is loaded in the card slot A and the card slot B, respectively. Each card slot A or B writes data in a memory card and reads data from the memory card. ~~Both of the~~ Each card slots slot A or and B may be adapted for adapt

to memory cards with different specs. For example, one memory card may be a SMART MEDIA and the other memory card may be a COMPACT FLASH.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 28 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

Card detection switches 76 and 77 are attached to the card slots A and B, respectively. Each switch 76 or 77 opens and closes according to the ~~insert~~ insertion and ejection of a memory card. A switching signal is sent to the selection controller 200.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 3 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

The card selector 75 is set between both card slots A and B and the main bus 82. The card selector 75 selects either the card slot A or B as a "write-execution slot" according to the instruction of a the card controller 74. The "write-execution slot" is a the card slot that executes writing of data, and is one of the embodiments of medium wearable units for write-

execution of the present invention (it is also the same in the following).

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 10 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

According to the present embodiment, the card selector 75 realizes a selection function by switching the connection. That is, the card selector 75 connects the main bus 82 only to the execution slot. The card controller 74, as described above, undertakes a processing such as a signal conversion necessary between the main bus 82 and the memory card. There is an advantage for this structure in that a plurality of card slots may be used differently by simply adding to the card selector 75 without, for example, changing the card controller 74. General-purpose LSI and the like may be used for the card controller 74.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 20 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

As a modification, the main bus 82 is directly connected to the card slot A and the card slot B. The main bus 82 provides data to both card slots A and B. The card selector 75 realizes

the selection function by providing a selection signal. In other words, the card selector 75 sends a selection signal to either the card slot A or B, or write-execution slot. The card slot, which ~~received~~ receives the selection signal, writes data provided from the main bus 82 to the memory card. On the other hand, unless the card slot receives the selection signal, writing of data may ~~not be conducted~~ be prevented. In this modification, the card selector 75 may be ~~established~~ incorporated in the card controller 74, for example. ~~It~~ This is advantageous in that the structure and control of the entire apparatus are simple.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 17, line 17 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

The mode switch 202 switches between a manual selection mode and an automatic selection mode according to a the user operation signal input ~~by~~ from the operations unit 110. ~~A~~ The user operates the operations unit 110 and selects either ~~the~~ "slot A," ~~the~~ "slot B," or ~~the~~ "automatic." If the user selects ~~the~~ "slot A" or ~~the~~ "slot B," the manual selection mode is set.



If the user selects ~~the~~ "automatic," the automatic selection mode is set.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 17, line 24 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

The manual selection controller 204 functions when the manual selection mode is set. In the manual selection mode, a the user manually selects a the write-execution slot. That is, if a the user selects ~~the~~ "slot A," the manual selection controller 204 sets the card slot A as the write-execution slot. If a the user selects ~~the~~ "slot B," the manual selection controller 204 sets the card slot B as the write-execution slot.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 1 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

The card detector 208 notifies the manual selection controller 204 whether or not a memory card is loaded in each slot A or B. The card detector 208 detects the existence of a card based on a the switching signal ~~input by~~ the card detection switches 76 and 77 of ~~both~~ card slots A and B.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 6 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

The manual selection controller 204 changes the write-execution slot depending on the existence of a card. Thus, the manual selection controller 204 selects the other card slot when the card slot selected by the user does ~~not load~~ have a memory card loaded. The user may be notified that the selected card slot ~~does not load a~~ is without the memory card and that the user may load a the memory card in the selected card slot. When a user believes that ~~an~~ the intended memory card is loaded in the selected card slot despite that a memory card is not actually loaded, an unintended memory card being automatically selected may be prevented. The notice may be ~~one~~ by audio, by display using text or image data, or by other notice methods. A plurality of notice methods may be used at the same time.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 19 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

The selection controller 200 provides the card selector 75 with a signal showing the write-execution slot set by the manual selection controller 204. Data is then written into the

selected write-execution slot. On the other hand, the automatic selection controller 206 functions when the automatic selection mode is set. The automatic selection controller 206 automatically selects a the write-execution slot based on a predetermined automatic selection basis, which reflects a the user's medium selection traits.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 27 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

The automatic selection basis according to the present embodiment will be described in the following. According to the conventional art as noted previously, ~~it is proposed that a~~ the card slot ~~be~~ is selected according to the available memory of a the memory card. However, if it is supposed that a the user selects a the card slot by himself or herself, it is mainly when the available memory is low that the user considers the availability of memory space. In general, that is, when the available memory space is enough, the availability of space is typically ~~may not be~~ considered. If a the card slot is selected based simply on the space availability basis ~~for its problems~~ ~~above~~, data may be recorded in an unintended memory card. This

unintended selection of a the memory card may cause that data to be alternately recorded in both memory cards, thereby the user may be confused with which data is recorded in which memory card, for example.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 19, line 9 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

Therefore, the present embodiment focuses on the fact that "what a user ~~emphatically~~ typically considers when selecting a the card slot generally is that whether or not the data management after recording is simple rather than the availability of a memory space." General users have a trait to select a the card slot or a the memory card for recording in order to make the data management simple, or in other words, medium selection traits. According to the present embodiment, the automatic selection basis that reflects the medium selection traits of these general users is set.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 19, line 21 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

(1) Loaded order: The card slot in which a the memory card is first loaded is selected as a the write-execution slot. If this basis is taken, it is when the data recorded in the first-loaded memory card becomes full that data is then written in the next memory card, ~~after all~~. Thus, the data management is simplified ~~becomes simple~~.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 19, line 26 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

When the difference of the loaded time between the two card slots is small, it may be considered that "the loaded time is the same." For example, the time difference of the memory cards loaded is monitored, and if the time difference is below a predetermined threshold value, it is judged that the memory cards are loaded in both card slots simultaneously. One of the slots may be set as a default slot ~~is then and~~ selected as a the write-execution slot. Otherwise, the former write-execution slot is continuously used. By conducting this processing, ~~an~~

the appropriate card slot is selected when a the user continuously loads two memory cards.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 20, line 5 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

(2) Data resolution: A camera that can change the resolutions with two steps is ~~supposed~~ presumed here. A write-execution slot is changed according to the resolution. The management of high resolution data and low resolution data becomes simple. The resolutions with more than three steps may be set. Those resolutions are divided into two groups. The designation of a group may be automatic or may follow a user's instruction.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 20, line 21 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

Also as described before, the card slots A and B may be adapted to different types of memory cards. In this case, a the selection basis may be set in order to make the data type correspond with the memory card type. A The user becomes

capable of managing data because the user may learn to associate the type of written data ~~by~~ with the type of the memory card.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 20, line 27 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

Deciding which basis among the plurality of bases described above ~~is—appropriate~~ differs depending on users and circumstances. Therefore, the digital camera 10 has a structure where users may select one from ~~three~~ the plurality of selection bases.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 21, line 1 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

Referring back to FIG. 2, the user ~~operates~~ may operate the operations unit 110 and ~~selects—an~~ select the automatic selection basis. A ~~selecting~~ selection basis setting section 210 selectively sets a plurality of automatic selection bases according to a the user's instruction. ~~Either~~ Any of "loaded order," "resolution," or "data type" is set. The automatic selection controller 206 refers to the set basis and selects a the write-execution slot. A card loaded order detector 212, a

the loaded order memory 214, a resolution detector 216, and a data type detector 218 are established for this process.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 21, line 30 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

The automatic selection controller 206 refers to these detection results and selects a the write-execution slot based on the automatic selection basis. Necessary detection results are referred to according to the set selection basis. The selection controller 200 provides the card selector 75 with a signal showing the write-execution slot set by the automatic selection controller 206. Thus, data is written in the selected write-execution slot.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 22, line 5 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

Moreover, the selection controller 200 includes an available memory detector 220. This available memory detector 220 effectively functions when the available memory of a card becomes small. The available memory detector 220 detects whether or not the available memory is enough, for example,



whether or not the available memory becomes less than a predetermined value, and sends the detection results to the automatic selection controller 206. Also, the available memory detector 220 may, for example, detect whether or not there is enough memory for recording one piece of picture image. The automatic selection controller 206 changes the write-execution slot when there is not enough available memory in the current write-execution slot.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 22, line 16 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

Further, the selection controller 200 includes a power controller 222. The power controller 222 controls a card slot power supply circuit 224 and limits the power supply to the card slot that is not selected as a the write-execution slot. Preferably, the power controller 222 shuts down the power supply. Thus, power may be saved.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 22, line 22 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

When a card slot that adapts to a memory card ~~requiring~~ requires a continued power supply, the effect of power saving may be prominently gained by limiting the power supply when not using the card slot (that is, when the card slot is not selected as a write-execution slot).

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 22, line 27 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

Furthermore, the selection controller 200 notifies the user with various pieces of information by using the display unit 100. The displaying information includes examples such as a "setting mode" (manual or automatic), or a "slot in use" (the slot selected by the manual selection mode or the write-execution slot selected by the automatic selection mode). In the automatic selection mode, the set automatic selection basis is also displayed. Moreover, it may display which data is recorded in which respective memory card, by using a list or an index image. A Light Emitting Diode, or LED, may also be used for displaying these pieces of information and may be displayed by distinguishing into the following types: when a memory card is loaded; when a the memory card is not loaded; and when a the

card slot loaded with a the memory card is selected. For example, the LED is green when a the memory card is loaded; no lighting when a the memory card is not loaded; and red when a the loaded memory card is selected. These pieces of information may be ~~displayed within~~ viewed using the finder 34.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 23, line 13 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

According to the present embodiment, two card slots are established shown. However, three or more card slots may be established included. In the case of three or more card slots, the priority order of slots for the automatic selection mode (for example, A, C, and B) may be displayed.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 23, line 18 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

FIG. 4 is a flowchart showing the process of control undertaken by the above-mentioned selection controller 200. First, the mode selection is conducted based on the user's operation using the operations unit 110, at step S10. When the user designates the "slot A," the manual selection mode is set,

and whether a memory card is loaded in the card slot A is detected, at step S12. If a the memory card is loaded in the card slot A, the card slot A is selected, at step S22. On the other hand, if a the memory card is not loaded in the card slot A, the selection controller 200 notifies the user that the memory card is not loaded, at step S13. If the user inserts the memory card into the card slot A by this notice, at step S17, Y, the card slot A is selected, at step S22. If the user does not insert the memory card into the card slot A, at step S17, N, the card slot B is selected, at step S24.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 24, line 12 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

When the user designates the "automatic," the process continues to step S16 from step S10. The automatic selection mode is set, and the automatic selection controller 206 selects a the card slot based on the automatic selection basis. The automatic selection basis is set by the selection basis setting section 210. It is ~~supposed~~ presumed here that the "card loaded order" is set as the automatic selection basis. At step S16, the detection result of the card loaded order detector 212 is

referred to. If the memory card in the card slot A is loaded ahead of the memory card of the card slot B, it is detected whether there is enough available memory of the memory card in the card slot A, at step S18. If the available memory is enough, at step S18, Y, the card slot A is selected, at step S22. If the available memory is not enough, at step S18, N, the card slot B is selected, at step S24.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 25, line 1 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

The selection controller 200 displays information, such as a the selected slot, through the display unit 100 or other display means, at step S26. Moreover, the power controller 222 functions to limit or, preferably, stop the power supply to the slot that is not selected, at step S28.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 25, line 11 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

In the process ~~of~~ shown in FIG. 4, the "loaded order" is set as the automatic selection basis. If ~~the other~~ another automatic selection basis is set, the process according to that

automatic selection basis is undertaken. That is, if the "resolution" is set as the automatic selection basis, a the card slot is selected according to the resolution of the recording data. If the "data type (image/audio)" is set as the automatic selection basis, a the card slot is selected according to the data type. The detectors 212, 216, and 218 provide detection bases for the selection.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 25, line 20 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

FIG. 5 is a flowchart showing the control process undertaken by the selection controller 200 in a case where either one of the card slots is selected and is being used but the available memory becomes low. The process when the card slot A is selected first is described here, for example. First, the mode selection is conducted based on the user's operation using the operations unit 110, and the card slot A is assumed to have been selected manually or automatically, at S40.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 25, line 28 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

When it is detected that there is not enough available memory, at step S44, N, while the user is using the card slot A, at step S42, the selection controller 200 notifies the user that there is not enough available memory, at step S46. If there is enough available memory, at step S44, N Y, the card slot A is continually used, at step S42. If the selection controller 200 notifies that there is not enough available memory, then whether another memory card is loaded in the card slot A is detected, at step S48.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 26, line 5 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

If another memory card is detected in the card slot A, at step S48, Y, the card slot A is continually selected, at step S52. If another memory card is not detected in the card slot A, at step S48, N, whether a memory card is loaded in the card slot B is detected, at step S50. If a the memory card is loaded in the card slot B, at step S50, Y, the card slot B is selected, at

step S54. If a the memory card is not loaded in the card slot B, at step S50, N, this control process is completed.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 26, line 13 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

The selection controller 200 displays information, such as, a the selected slot, through the display unit 100 or other display means, at step S56. Moreover, the power controller 222 functions to limit or, preferably, stop the power supply to the slot that is not selected, at step S58.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 26, line 23 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

The characteristic structure and the operations of the digital camera according to the present embodiment have been described above. According to the present embodiment, a write-execution slot is selected based on an automatic selection basis. Since the automatic selection basis reflects a user's medium selection traits, data may be written in an appropriate memory card. Also, by switching between the manual selection mode and the automatic selection mode, data may be written in an



appropriate memory card that meets the user's requirement. Moreover, by using a the detection result of the available memory, in addition to the automatic selection basis, data may be written ~~in an~~ to the appropriate memory card. Further, by displaying the result of the card slot selection, the user may easily learn in which card slot data is written. Furthermore, by limiting the power supply to the card slot other than the write-execution slot, power may be saved. In other words, the number of applied media may be increased while controlling the increase of the power consumption.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 27, line 15 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

As ~~the~~ a first modification, types of a memory card cards are, of course, not limited. A memory medium and a medium wearable unit are also not limited to a particular memory card and a particular card slot. A memory medium may be a given medium so far as record data of a digital camera, which is mainly a picture image, can be recorded. A medium wearable unit has a structure in order to adapt to those given media. The medium wearable unit is, for example, a slot for an I/O card.

In this case, the I/O card and a memory device of an electronic appliance connected with the I/O card, such as a personal computer, function as a the memory medium.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 27, line 25 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

As ~~the~~ a second modification, the medium wearable unit may be more than three parts. Those parts may ~~adapt~~ be adapted to the same type of memory card or to different types of memory cards. The automatic selection basis described ~~before~~ above may adapt to any types of memory card in the same way.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 28, line 12 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

As ~~the~~ a third modification, the automatic selection bases are not limited to the above-mentioned "loaded order," "data resolution," and "data type." As defined above, other bases that reflect user's medium selection traits may be applied.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 28, line 16 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

For example, according to the present embodiment, when the "loaded order" is used as a basis, the medium wearable unit where a the medium is loaded first is selected as a the write-execution slot. However, on the other hand, the medium wearable unit where a the medium is loaded ~~for the~~ last may be selected as a write-execution slot. Users may select which basis to use.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 28, line 22 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

As ~~the~~ a a fourth modification, the frequency of selection in the manual selection mode conducted by a user may be preferably used for the automatic selection. The selection controller 200 monitors the selection of the medium wearable unit made by the user with manual selection mode and records the result. When the automatic selection mode is set, a write-execution slot that is used ~~in high frequency~~ most often while in the manual selection mode may be selected. That is, the automatic selection basis is set based on the frequency of selection made while in the manual selection mode, and the medium wearable unit

with the high frequency is selected in advance. This automatic selection basis has an advantage in that medium selection traits of an individual user may be reflected. It may be structured in order for users to be able to freely set their own automatic selection bases.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 29, line 4 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

As ~~the~~ a fifth modification, a plurality of automatic selection bases may be applied simultaneously. For example, two of the three automatic selection bases according to the present embodiment described above are applied simultaneously. Specifically, the "loaded order" and the "resolution" are used together. Basically, a the write-execution slot is selected based on the loaded order. When two media are loaded almost simultaneously, a the write-execution slot is selected based on the resolution. Otherwise, in the case of more than three medium wearable units being set, two medium wearable units are selected based on the "resolution" as the first step, and one medium wearable unit is selected according to the loaded order as the second step.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 29, line 16 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

As ~~the~~ a sixth modification, a plurality of automatic selection basis may not be selectively set. That is, the digital camera may have a structure that only one automatic selection basis can be set. The most appropriate automatic selection basis is taken according to the specs of the digital camera.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 29, line 21 with the following rewritten paragraph.*

Further, as ~~the~~ a seventh modification, an electronic appliance having the function of a digital camera (for example, a computer having a CCD camera) may have the structure of the present invention. These electronic appliances are included in the scope of the digital camera of the present invention.